



THE IRISH EPISCOPAL COMMISSION FOR EMIGRANTS MARKS 50 YEARS OF THE IRISH CHAPLAINCY IN BRITAIN

From Pastoral Care to Public Policy - Journeying with the Migrant

**21 – 23 November, 2007
Dunboyne Castle Hotel**

Contact Details: Email: MigrantConference@iecon.ie tel: 01-5053055

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Day 1, Wednesday 21st November 2007

- 10.00 -10.30am: Arrival and Registration
- 10.30 – 11.00am **Prayer ,Welcome and Opening Address**
Archbishop Sean Brady DD, President of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference
- Chairperson:**
Sr. Joan Roddy DMJ, Irish Catholic Bishops' Refugee and Migrant Project
- 11.00 – 11.20pm **Address by Minister Conor Lenihan, Minister for Integration at the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs**
- 11.20 – 12.00pm ***PASTORAL CARE OF MIGRANTS: A FOUNDATION FOR PUBLIC POLICY***

Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio DD, Bishop of Brooklyn

The phenomenon of new migrants in a country of historic emigration is a challenge to both pastoral care and the formation of sound public policy. From the experience of the Church in the United States, home to so many Irish immigrants, some lessons can be learned that can structure pastoral care and inform public policy. Sociological analysis tells us that ecclesial integration can be a model for civic integration, when both respect the culture of the migrant. The call to conversion, communion and solidarity guide the Church's efforts at pastoral care and can assist in the State's task of integration, on a permanent or temporary basis, for new migrants.

- 12.30 – 1.30pm Lunch*
- 1.30 – 2.15pm **Chairperson:**
Mr. Eoin O'Mahony, Social Researcher for the Irish Catholic Bishops Council for Research and Development

FOUNDATIONS FOR MIGRATION POLICY

Mr. Francis Davis, Von Hügel Institute

The importance of research in migrant care can not be overstated. Mr Francis Davis outlines the methodology adopted in the recent survey 'The Ground of Justice' commissioned by the Diocese of Westminster, Brentwood and Southwark. He will highlight the issues that are at play in new migrant communities and the factors that inhibit integration. His presentation of the findings provide invaluable assistance in defining both the mission of Church and society into the future.



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2.15 – 3.15pm ***THE RISK OF MIGRATION: IT'S MITIGATION THROUGH PUBLIC POLICY***

Professor Des Cahill

This seminar will examine the various types of migration and will focus on the factors that shape migration and the challenge that is posed to the host nation regarding policy, communication of that policy and data collection.

3.15 – 3.45pm Coffee

3.45 – 4.45pm Discussion

Day 2, Thursday 22nd November 2007

9.15am – 9.30am **Opening Prayer and Address**
Archbishop Michael Neary DD, Archbishop of Tuam, Member of the Irish Episcopal Commission for Emigrants

Chairperson:
Dr. Stasia Crickley, Lecturer, Centre for Applied Social Studies, NUI Maynooth.

9.30– 10.30am ***THE MIGRANT AS ASSET; ACCOMODATING THE IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE IN SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM SETTLEMENT***

Professor Des Cahill

This seminar examines models of immigration adaptation and the effect of adaptation on the immigrant. The distinct characteristics of refugee and immigrant settlement are identified and lessons that have been learned from previous exercises with regard to immigrant settlement will be discussed. A study of settlement patterns will also be explored.

10.30 – 11.00am Coffee

11.15 – 12.00pm ***STRUCTURING THE ADAPTION. THE CHALLENGE OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURE FOR THE HOST SOCIETY***

Professor Des Cahill

The dissemination of information is critical in any nation. This seminar will study the information needs of immigrants and will examine ways in which the culture and language of the immigrant can be supported. Issues such as the role of interpreter and cultural mediator will be discussed. The learning of English as a second language both by immigrant and refugee adults and children will receive particular attention, including the role of the school and the preparation of teachers.

12.00 – 1.00pm Panel Response

1.00 – 2.15pm Lunch*
Nov. 21st 10.00am – 4.45pm

Nov. 22nd 9.15am – 5.00pm

Nov. 23rd 9.30am to 12.30pm 2



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2.15 – 3.00pm

Chairperson:

Sr. Anne Codd PBVM, Resource Person for the Irish Catholic Bishops' Commission for Pastoral Renewal and Adult Faith Development

GOD, GLOBALISATION AND THE PASTORAL CARE OF IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES.

Professor Des Cahill

The changing profile of religion and religious groups within society will be discussed with reference to new and emerging challenges for the Church in the context of a Globalised world. The challenges, though global, have a distinct impact on pastoral services and strategies that are offered by the local Church. Focus will also be given to the ramifications of multifaith societies and the role of international interfaith organisations.

3.00 – 3.15pm

Coffee

3.15 – 4.00pm

AN INTEGRATED CULTURALLY DIVERSE SOCIETY: FROM DEMOGRAPHIC FACT TO SOCIAL COHESION

Professor Des Cahill

There can be resistance to a more culturally diverse society. The presence of new communities may pose a threat to the established host Society at various levels. This seminar will reflect on the challenge before all people under the headings of Commitment to the Nation and providing Equality of opportunity. This will lead to a discussion on National Identity and the role of public administration in the advancement of a culturally diverse society. The implications for the policing and criminal justice systems will also be examined.

4.00 – 5.00pm

Panel Response



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Day 3, Friday 23rd November

9.30am – 9.50am

Opening Prayer and Address:

Bishop Seámus Hegarty DD, Bishop of Derry, Chair of the Irish Episcopal Commission for Emigrants

Chairperson:

Rev. Paul Byrne OMI, Member of the Irish Episcopal Commission for Emigrants

9.50 – 10.50am

'PASTORAL CARE WITHOUT FRONTIERS': THE IRISH CHAPLAINCY IN BRITAIN 1957-2007

Dr. Patricia Kennedy

This paper explores how, for over fifty years, the Irish Chaplaincy in Britain has successfully combined its pastoral role with migrants, with influencing, shaping and developing social policies in Ireland and Britain. Working with the most marginalised in society, priests and religious not only provided leadership, comfort and courage for Irish migrants, they confronted both the Irish and British establishments at local, regional and national levels, agitating for social justice and dignity for Irish migrants. Their story is one of courage in the face of major obstacles and prejudice as they provided 'pastoral care without frontiers'.

10.50 – 11.15am

Coffee

11.15 – 12.00pm

THE CHALLENGE OF MIGRATION TODAY

Mr. Peter Sutherland:

Mr Sutherland will address the topic of Migration and the inherent challenges that are posed to a Europe that is built on strong Christian foundations and principles. These principles highlight the dignity of the migrant alongside a society that is constantly called on to rediscover and restate its core values.

12.00 – 12.30pm

Questions and Answers

Closing:

Bishop Seámus Hegarty DD, Bishop of Derry, Chair of the Irish Episcopal Commission for Emigrants

Lunch*

(*LUNCH: On Wednesday and Thursday lunch will be a main course, dessert, tea/coffee and on Friday soup and sandwiches.)